



Sam Brownback

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BROWNBACK HONORS SHEVARDNADZE

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback this evening made the following statement at the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, honoring President Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia with the W. Averell Harriman Award.

"I can think of no better recipient for this award," Brownback said. "Eduard Shevardnadze was a major factor in bringing freedom to the Soviet Union. Since returning to Georgia he has worked tirelessly to preserve the independence and sovereignty of that nation and to put in place the strong foundations for true democracy. There is still a way to go, but President Shevardnadze, with the help of the reformers in the Parliament, has worked steadily and made tremendous progress in a very short time to build up a new nation on a democratic model with a free market economy.

"These are few words to describe a monumental task which takes many years and which requires true dedication and moral commitment. President Shevardnadze has shown that commitment. I am delighted that he is being presented with this award in recognition of the tremendous achievements he has made so far. It is also another sign of the respect, admiration and support he receives in the United States," Brownback said.